

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ON THE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT AND/OR CAPITAL APPELLATE PANELS
FOR THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT**

INSTRUCTIONS

To be considered for membership on the CJA Appellate Panel for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, an attorney must be a member of the bar of the Fourth Circuit in good standing and have demonstrated experience in, and knowledge of, federal criminal law and appellate procedure and the Sentencing Guidelines. Attorneys must also maintain a physical office within the circuit since the Plan's appointment provisions generally call for appointment of counsel from the district in which the case arose.

CJA Appellate Panel members are appointed in rotating order in direct criminal appeals in which trial counsel has been granted leave to withdraw. The maximum compensation in such cases is \$7,100.

To be considered for membership as second-chair counsel on the Fourth Circuit's Capital Appellate Panel, an attorney must satisfy the qualifications for CJA Appellate Panel membership and have an interest in capital representation. To be considered for membership as first-chair counsel on the Fourth Circuit's Capital Appellate Panel, an attorney must have an interest in capital representation and must have been admitted to practice in the Fourth Circuit not less than 5 years and have had not less than 3 years experience in the handling of appeals in the Fourth Circuit in felony cases. Membership on the Capital Appellate Panel is open to attorneys from outside the circuit.

Capital Appellate Panel members are appointed as needed to provide representation in direct and collateral appeals in capital cases. Two attorneys are appointed in capital cases. If the attorneys, in combination, anticipate spending more than 300 hours at the appeal stage for a collateral capital appeal or more than 100 hours at the certiorari stage for a collateral capital appeal, advance approval of a case budget is required.

Counsel applying for membership on the CJA Appellate Panel should complete questions 1 through 8. Counsel applying for membership on the Capital Appellate Panel should complete questions 1 through 9.

Please submit:

- the completed questionnaire
- your resume
- an appellate brief you have prepared and a copy of the court opinion (see question 6.B)

via email to: 4CCA-CJA_Apps@ca4.uscourts.gov.

Email transmissions in excess of 4.5 MB are blocked by the judiciary's email system. Please divide your application into separate email transmissions if the combined materials exceed 4.5 MB. Your application will be acknowledged upon receipt.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ON (check all that apply)

_____ CJA Appellate Panel

_____ Capital Appellate Panel

(Attach additional sheets if needed in answering the following questions)

1. **Name** _____
Firm Name _____
Office Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Email _____ Fax No. _____

Office Phone No. _____

2. **Education** – Graduated from:

School of Law _____ Year _____

3. **Bar Admissions** – List each court with date of admission (include Fourth Circuit admission date):

4. **Disciplinary Actions** – Have you ever been disciplined, or are you the subject of any pending disciplinary proceeding, by the bar of any jurisdiction or by any court? _____
If so, please explain in detail on a separate sheet of paper.

5. **Criminal Actions** - Have you ever been convicted of any criminal offense (misdemeanor or felony)? _____
If so, please explain in detail on a separate sheet of paper.

6. **Experience**

A. **Prior CJA Experience** – If you have at any time been a member of a CJA panel, or the member of a comparable state court panel, please list the court(s) and approximate dates of service:

If your membership application has ever been rejected or your membership terminated from a CJA or comparable state court panel, please identify the panel and state the reasons:

B. Previous Appellate Experience – Approximately how many appellate briefs have you prepared? _____ Of these appeals, approximately how many were federal appeals? _____ Approximately how many were criminal (state or federal) appeals? _____ How many appeals have you argued? _____

Please list up to three criminal or habeas corpus appeals you have handled, preferably federal appeals. If you have not handled any criminal appeals, you may list civil appeals. Please provide a copy of the brief you authored in one of these cases, along with a copy of the court opinion. If the brief is an Anders brief or is not a good example of your writing and advocacy skills, please substitute a brief that better represents your qualifications.

C. Trial Experience – Please briefly describe any criminal trial experience, federal or state, relevant to evaluating your competence to serve on this panel:

D. Other – Have you ever been employed as a prosecutor, public defender, or law clerk to a judge or justice? _____ If so, please describe the position, the name of your employer, and the approximate dates of employment.

7. **References** – Please list the name, address, and telephone number of two references who can assess your skills relevant to this panel:

8. **Special Qualifications** – Are you fluent in Spanish? _____ Please indicate whether you have any other special qualifications, such as expertise in a specialized area of law or relevant legal experience, which you believe is helpful in evaluating your competence to serve on this panel.

9. **Capital Appellate Panel**

A. **Statement of Interest** – Please state whether you would like to be considered for:

_____ First-chair counsel in capital appeals

_____ Second-chair counsel in capital appeals

B. **Previous Felony Appeals in this Court** – First-chair counsel must have been admitted to practice in this Court for not less than 5 years and must have had not less than 3 years experience in the handling of appeals in this Court in felony cases. Please list all felony appeals you have handled in this Court:

C. **Other Relevant Experience** – Please identify any background, knowledge, experience, education, training, or other special qualifications that would be helpful in evaluating your competence to provide capital representation:

Date

Applicant's Signature